

## **Remarks**

### **I. Introduction**

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action dated at March 30, 2006. Claims 14-19, 24/14, and 27 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has recited several grounds for objecting to and rejecting the present application. Examiner objected to the drawings for not including representations to the angular disposition of second section of the fatigue/relieving apparatus. In view of this objection to the drawings, the Examiner objected to the specification. The Examiner also has objected to claims 14-19, 24/14, and 27 for indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Lastly, the Examiner rejected pending claims 14-19, 24/14 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for anticipation based on either Van Arsdell, U.S. Patent No. 2,118,540; Anson, U.S. Patent No. 2,134,020; or Laubach, U.S. Patent No. 1,575,848. Applicant will demonstrate herein that the objections and rejections have been overcome by this Response, thereby placing the present application in condition for allowance.

### **II. The Corrected Drawings Overcome the Examiner's Objection**

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings because "each part of the invention, e.g., the angle and the face in claim 14 should be designated by a reference numeral or character." Applicant has corrected the drawings as requested by the Examiner. These changes to the drawings do not add new matter. As such, Applicant has traversed the Examiner's basis for objection to the drawings.

### **III. The Specification, As Amended, Overcome the Examiner's Objection**

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification for "failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed the subject matter, such as, 'an angle,' in claim 14." Applicant has amended the specification to overcome this objection. These amendments do not add new matter. Therefore, this objection should be withdrawn.

#### **IV. The Claims, As Amended Are Definitive.**

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that the terms “rigid,” “semi-rigid,” “flexible,” or “non-deformable” in claims 14 and 17 are indefinite. Applicant submits that these terms would be understood by a person of ordinary skill in the art in light of the present invention.

The Examiner contends that 14 and 17 are indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, second paragraph, because of the recitation of the terms “rigid,” “semi-rigid,” “flexible,” and “non-deformable.” In particular, the Examiner asserts that these terms are indefinite because these terms “[are] not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.” Further, the Examiner contends that “it is unclear what range of Rockwell hardness of the material of the second section is required in order to be considered as terms “rigid,” semi-rigid, or flexible, or non-deformable.” Applicant submits that the claims are definite as will be shown.

Claims 14 and 17, include the terms “rigid,” “semi-rigid,” “flexible,” and “non-deformable.” Applicant has attached as Attachment A excerpts from the Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary. These excerpts demonstrate that each of the terms that the Examiner has contended is indefinite is a very common term that a person of ordinary skill in the art would understand with sufficiency to make and use the present invention. The attached excerpts make plain that a person of ordinary skill in the art would clearly understand the scope of the claims when “rigid,” “semi-rigid,” or “flexible,” or “non-deformable,” is used. As such, claims 14 and 17 would be definite in the hands of a person of ordinary skill in the art. Noting this, Applicant overcomes the Examiner’s indefiniteness rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as to the use of the terms “rigid,” “semi-rigid,” “flexible,” and “non-deformable,” and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn with regard to claims 14 and 19.

The Examiner also rejected claims 15 and 17 for allegedly having no anticipated basis for the terms “a steering wheel” and “a peripheral portion of the steering wheel,” respectively. Applicant has amended the claims to remove any possible confusion on the part of the Examiner with regard to overcoming this obviousness rejection.

Noting the foregoing, Applicant has traversed each of the Examiner's basis for rejecting the claims for indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

**V. Claims 14-19 Are Not Anticipated Under 35 § U.S.C. 102(b)**

Claims 14-19, 24/14 and 27 are pending in the present application. In the current Office Action, claims 14-19, 24-14 and 27 have been rejected by the Examiner for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) based on a three references. These references are U.S. Patent No. 1,575,848 to Laubach ("Laubach"), U.S. Patent No. 2,118,540 to Van Arsdel ("Van Arsdel"), and U.S. Patent No. 2,134,020 to Anson ("Anson"). More specifically, the Examiner relied on Van Arsdel or Anson for rejecting claims 14-17, 19/17, 24/14 and 27; and Laubach for rejecting claims 14, 18 and 19/18. Hereinafter, Applicant will demonstrate that claims 14-19, 24/14, and 27, as presently amended, place the present application in condition for allowance and the application should be passed to issue.

**A. Applicable Law**

In order for there to be anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102, a single prior art reference must show each and every feature of the claimed invention in the same way. . *Brown v. 3M*, 265 F.3d 1349, 1351 (Fed. Cir. 2001) ("To anticipate, every limitation of the claimed invention must be found in a single prior art reference, arranged as in the claim"); *Kloster Speedsteel AB v. Crucible, Inc.*, 793 F.2d 1565, 1571 (Fed. Cir. 1986) ("absence from the reference of any claimed element negates anticipation"). Applicant submits that neither Van Arsdel, Anson, nor Laubach satisfy this standard for finding anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

**B. Van Arsdel Does Not Anticipate Claims 14-19, 24/14, and 27**

Claim 14 is an independent claim and claims 15-19, 24/14, and 27 depend from claim 14. As such, claims 15-19, 24/14, and 27 add features to claim 20.

In relying on Van Arsdel, the Examiner does not cite to any descriptions of the auto steering wheel handgrip disclosed in this reference but annotates the drawings for this purpose. Specifically, the Examiner annotated Figures 3 and 5 in an attempt to show what is being claimed in claim 14. The Examiner states that reference no. 4 equates to the first section and reference no. 2 equates to the second section of claim 14. Applicant submits that the Examiner fails to consider and appreciate all of the elements of the

second section because if he did, two things would be clear (i) the grip-rest is in a plane parallel with the one across the face of the steering wheel and (ii) there is a missing element.

Van Arsdel at column 2, lines 13-54 states:

The grip-rest 2 is concave longitudinally and about half of the rest extends over and part way across the steering wheel rim 3 in a manner to slope downwardly and inwardly of the rim. The outer edge 4 on the side, and 5 of the rear end of the concave, located above the rim, extends up into a marginal flange to be contacted by the inside of the ball of the thumb or by the bottom of the hand, depending upon which part of the hand is seated on the rest. These flanges 4 and 5 enable the operator instantly to feel any deviation of the car from a straight course and gives him something substantial to push against in resistance and also in rotating the wheel to steer the car around corners and curves and away from obstructions or bad places in the roadway.

The rotation of the steering wheel by hand pressure against the flanges 4 and 5 is assisted by the palm and fingers, which are wrapped around the rim of the wheel, and increase the fingerhold [on] the grip-rest 2, which is thickened and bifurcated to straddle the rim as shown in Fig. 6, is provided with recesses separated by ridges, here shown as three in number, 6, 7, and 8.... [See Figure 4]

The weight of the hand and arm are comfortably supported with the bottom of the hand resting in the concavity of the grip-rest as shown in Fig. 1, or with the ball of the thumb seated in the concavity as shown in Fig. 2....

My improved grip-rest may be formed integral with the rim of the steering wheel as shown in Fig. 8, but I prefer to make it removable as an attachment for any make of car and also to make it adjustable to suit the requirements or fancy of the driver. [Emphasis added]

A review of Figures 3 and 5, as annotated by the Examiner, attempts to show that the grip-rest of Van Arsdel is disposed outward at an angle  $\alpha$  to a plane across the face of the steering wheel shows that the Examiner's position is misplaced. As the description above from Van Arsdel indicates, the grip-rest is disposed as shown in Figure 6 parallel to the plane across the face of the steering wheel not at angle to it. This is very clear because in each disposition of the grip-rest in the Figures, it is fixed in this parallel plane to support the thumb or part of the palm. It is also fixed so that it is not deformable so the driver can put extensive pressure on it (and it will not move) for steering the automobile (See underscored sections in the quotation above).

If the grip-rest were supposed to be at an angle commensurate with the present invention as the Examiner contends, its disposition would be shown differently in the drawings. As such, there is not support for the Examiner's contention that the grip-rest is disposed other than in the plane parallel to the plane across the form of the steering wheel. Accordingly, one skilled in the art would not understand the grip-rest in Van Arsdel to be disposed as the Examiner contends.

There is also no support in the description of the grip-rest in Van Arsdel that it will deform in any way out of interference with the operation of the steering wheel. Applicant submits he is justified in taking this position given the description of the connection of the grip-rest as shown in Figure 6 or the integrally formed grip-rest shown in Figure 8. Therefore, the grip-rest of Van Arsdel would not anticipate the invention as set forth in claim 14 because it is missing at least one element, i.e., Van Arsdel at least does not teach or suggest the features of the second section being deformable out of interference with the operation of the steering wheel as set forth in claim 14.

Noting in the foregoing, Applicant has demonstrated that the auto steering wheel grip-rest of Van Arsdel does not anticipate (or render obvious) the invention of claim 14. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the anticipation rejection based on Van Arsdel be withdrawn.

Claims 15-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 depend from claim 14. As such, each of these dependent claims includes all the features of claim 14. Therefore, claims 15-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 are not anticipated by Van Arsdel for the same reasons that claim 14 is not anticipated by this patent. Thus, Applicant has traversed the Examiner's basis for rejecting claims 15-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 for anticipation and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

### **C. Anson Does Not Anticipate Claims 14-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27**

The Examiner has rejected claims 14-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 for anticipation based on Anson. Referring to the Figures of Anson, the Examiner states that reference no. 13 equates to the first section and reference no. 11 equates to the second section of claim 14. The Examiner has annotated Figure 8 to indicate that the steering wheel attachment of Anson is disposed at an angle  $\alpha$  with respect to a plane across the face of

the steering wheel. Before addressing the Examiner's basis of rejection, Applicant submits that the description of the steering wheel attachment of Anson is germane to the Examiner's position on anticipation. Applicant also submits that if this description is taken into consideration, the Examiner should withdraw the anticipation rejection based on Anson.

In the description of the purpose of the steering wheel attachment in Anson, the patent states (Page 1, left column, lines 6-25):

I have found that in the driving of an automobile and particular when driving for extended periods of time over long distances, the normal manner of holding and manipulating the steering wheel, wherein both driver's hands grasp the wheel in positions which require the driver's arms to remain in a raised and more or less unnatural and uncomfortable position, considerable strain develops in the driver's hands, arms, shoulders and back particularly, and results in excess of fatigue, such as will frequently dull the driver's normal reflexes and alertness and thereby increase the danger of accidents.

To obviate these disadvantages, I have devised an attachment for steering wheels, which permits a driver to assume a completely comfortable and relaxed driving position, while at the same time, affords a means permitting the driver to at all times retain positive operating control of the steering wheel. [Emphasis added]

The steering wheel attachment of Anson is subsequently described in the patent. The following description is stated (Page 1, right column, line 49 – Page 2, left column, line 18):

The attachment comprises a hand grip portion 11, which is preferably of bulbular form.... Grip portion 11 normally extends downward from the wheel rim and is of suitable length to adapt same to extend to the region of the driver's lap so that it may be grasped by the driver's hand when his hand is resting in a normal comparable position in his lap. Grip portion 11...which will have sufficient pliability...to be deflected from its normal pendant position without adversely affecting the measure of control of the steering wheel movements afforded by the positive operating movement of the attachment, while at the same time, neck 12 will retain sufficient rigidity to permit operating movements of hand grip 11 to be positively communicated to the steering wheel rim for effective control of its movements. [Emphasis added]

Applicant submits that the steering wheel attachment of Anson does disclose all of the elements of claim 14. As set forth in the quotation above, the steering wheel attachment of Anson is a pliable structure that dangles downward from the bottom of the

steering wheel. It is further understood from the quotation above that in use the steering wheel attachment is grasped by the driver's hand while the arms and hands are resting in the driver's lap. There is no teaching in Anson that the steering wheel attachment can be disposed of any location other than at the bottom of the steering wheel where it dangles for use. The other dispositive of the hand grip at the top of rim is for situations where it is removed from use.

The Examiner has cited Anson at Page 2, Left Column, Lines 62-72, as teaching the deformability element of the second section in claim 14. As the quotation above demonstrates, when the Anson handgrip is in use, it is in the pendent position and used to steer the vehicle. If, during normal operations, the driver were to grab the steering wheel in an emergency situation, he would release the handgrip and grab the wheel, for example, at the 10 and 2 o'clock positions. In doing so, the pendent-hanging handgrip would not be deformed as set forth in claim 14 because it would not be in use. Moreover, if it were used, it would not be deformed out of interference but would be held to steer the vehicle.

The Examiner has stated the handgrip of Anson equates to deformation according to claim 14 because it may be moved from the bottom pendent position to the top of the steering wheel. When the handgrip is moved to the top, it is moved there to be purposefully out of use all the time so it will not be in a position to be deformed as set forth in the second section of claim 14.<sup>1</sup> In order to move the handgrip, it would be understood that the vehicle would have to be stopped, the handgrip detached and repositioned at the top, and reattached.

Given the foregoing, the steering wheel attachment of Anson at least does not indicate the element of the second section being disposed outward at an angle from the plane across the face of the steering wheel (Anson extends rearward) and it does not teach that the attachment will be deformable out of interference with the operation of the steering wheel as set forth in claim 14.

Applicant has demonstrated that claim 14 is not anticipated (or rendered obvious) by Anson and requests that the anticipation rejection based on this patent be withdrawn.

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<sup>1</sup> Anson, page 2, left column, lines 68-72.

Claims 15-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 depend from claim 14. As such, each of these dependent claims includes all the features of claim 14. Therefore, claims 15-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 are not anticipated by Anson for the same reasons that claim 14 is not anticipated by this patent. Applicant has traversed the Examiner's basis for rejecting claims 15-17, 19/17, 24/14, and 27 for anticipation and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

**D. Laubach Does Not Anticipate Claims 14, 18, and 19/18**

The Examiner has rejected claims 14, 18, and 19/18 for anticipation based on Laubach. In formulating the rejection based on Laubach, the Examiner has not relied on any part of the disclosure in that patent but has annotated the drawings to allegedly show that Laubach teaches each and every feature of claim 14. The Examiner states that reference nos. 7 and 8 of the knob 2 equates to the first section and reference no. 10 equates to the second section of claim 14. Applicant submits that the Examiner's reliance on Laubach is misplaced.

Laubach states the following with regard to the knobs attached to the steering wheel (Page 1, line 43 – 71):

By particularly considering the Figures 2 and 3, it will be seen that the knobs 2 are secured to the rim of the wheel 1 by means of securing screws 4, these screws being threaded as indicated at 5 longitudinally through the knobs 2, and extending for quite a distance through the entire length of the knobs, thereby efficiently bracing the same. The inner ends of the knobs 2 are concave as indicated at 6, so as to conform to the contour of the outer periphery of the wheel 1....

Each knob 2 is provided with a plurality of finger sockets 9 upon the upper face thereof, and an enlarged head portion 10 at the outer end thereof, for the purpose of facilitating the gripping of the knob and preventing the actual slippage of the hand of the operator from the knob 2. [Emphasis added]

The Examiner has annotated the drawings to attempt to show that enlarged head 10 is disposed outward at an angle from the plane across the face of the steering wheel. This is not supported.

The hands of the driver are supported by gripping the knobs in the defined finger recesses shown in the drawings. The heads 10 are enlarged for this sole purpose of preventing the hands from slipping off of the knobs. The heads 10 clearly are not



disposed at an angle outward of the plane across the face of the steering wheel but are placed at the end of the knobs solely to act as a stop. Further, the heads 10 are not deformable out of interference with the operation of the steering wheel as set forth in claim 14. They are fixed in place along with the rest of the knobs.

The description of the knobs and a review of the Figures makes plain that the knobs are not deformable and they are not disposed at an angle with respect to the a plane across the face of the steering wheel. The knobs are rigidly connected to the steering wheel by screws 5. Any movement of them requires removing the screws, drilling the wheel at a new location, and reattaching the knobs at the new location. At this new location, the knobs will in a plane parallel to the plane across the face of the steering wheel.

The knobs do not deform out of interference with the operation of the steering wheel as in the second section of claim 14. In fact, once the Laubach knobs are secured by screws 5 as shown and described, they are fixed and not movable during normal operations. If they are not unscrewed, the only movement would be to apply a destructive force to the knobs, thereby breaking them.

Therefore, Laubach at least does not teach the features of the second section being disposed outward at an angle from the plane across the face of the steering wheel and the knobs of Laubach do not deform out of interference with the operation of the steering wheel as set forth in claim 14.

Applicant has demonstrated that claim 14 is not anticipated (or rendered obvious) by Laubach and requests that the anticipation rejection based on this patent be withdrawn.

Claims 18 and 19/18 depend from claim 14. As such, each of these dependent claims includes all the features of claim 14. Therefore, claims 18 and 19/18 are not anticipated by Laubach for the same reasons that claim 14 is not anticipated by this patent. Therefore, Applicant has traversed the Examiner's bases for rejecting claims 18 and 19/18 for anticipation and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

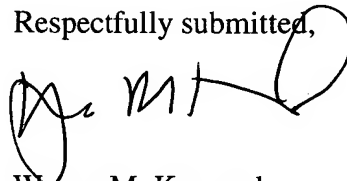
### III. Conclusion

In this Response, Applicant has traversed Examiner's (i) objection to the drawings, (ii) objection to the specification, (iii) and anticipation rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on either Van Arsdell, U.S. Patent No. 2,118,540; Anson, U.S. Patent No. 2,134,020; and Laubach, U.S. Patent No. 1,575,848. As such, Applicant has placed the present application in condition for allowance.

The present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Dated: June 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wayne M. Kennard', written over a horizontal line.

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CATE (rigidly defined property lines) b: to make distinct, clear, or detailed in outline (the issues aren't too well defined) 3: CHARACTERIZE, DISTINGUISH (you ~ yourself by the choices you make — Denison Univ. Bull.) ~ vi: to make a definition — *de-fin-able* \-'fi-nə-bəl/ *adj* — *de-fin-ably* \-'bi-ə/ *adv* — *de-fin-ment* \-'fin-mənt/ *n* — *de-fin-er* \-'fi-nər/ *n*

*de-fin-i-en-dum* \di-'fin-ē-'en-dəm/ *n*, pl -da \-'dā/ [L. something to be defined, neut. of *definiendus*, gerundive of *definire*] (1871): an expression that is being defined

*de-fin-i-ens* \di-'fin-ē-'enz/ *n*, pl *de-fin-i-en-tia* \di-'fin-ē-'en-ch(ē)-ə/ [L. pp. of *definire*] (1871): an expression that defines: DEFINITION

*def-i-nite* \def-(ə)-nət/ *adj* [L. *definitus*, pp. of *definire*] (1553) 1: having distinct or certain limits (set ~ standards for pupils to meet) 2: a: free of all ambiguity, uncertainty, or obscurity (demanded a ~ answer) b: UNQUESTIONABLE, DECIDED (the quarterback was a ~ hero today) 3: typically designating an identified or immediately identifiable person or thing (the ~ article the) 4: a: being constant in number, usu. less than 20, and occurring in multiples of the petal number (stamens ~) b: CYMOSE *syn* see EXPLICIT — *def-i-nite-ly* *adv* — *def-i-nite-ness* *n*

**definite integral** *n* (1860): a number that is the difference between the values of the indefinite integral of a given function for two values of the independent variable

*def-i-ni-tion* \def-(ə)-nī-shən/ *n* [ME *diffiniō*, fr. MF *definition*, fr. L. *definitio*, *definitio*, fr. *definitus*, pp. of *definire*] (14c) 1: an act of determining; a specif: the formal proclamation of a Roman Catholic dogma 2: a: a statement expressing the essential nature of something (as by differentiation within a class) b: a statement of the meaning of a word or word group or a sign or symbol (dictionary ~) c: a product of defining

3: the action or process of stating or formulating a definition 4: the action or the power of describing, explaining, or making definite (the ~ of a telescope) (her comic genius is beyond ~) b and clear (the ~ of a telescope) (her comic genius is beyond ~) (1) distinctness of outline or detail (as in a photograph) (2) clarity esp. of musical sound in reproduction c: sharp demarcation of outlines or limits (a jacket with definite waist ~) — *def-i-ni-tion-al* \-'nī-shən-əl/ *adj*

*def-i-ni-tive* \di-'fin-ə-'tīv/ *adj* [ME *diffinitiv*, fr. MF *definitif*, fr. L. *definitivus*, fr. *definitus*] (14c) 1: serving to provide a final solution (a ~ victory) 2: authoritative and apparently exhaustive (a ~ biography) 3: serving to define or specify precisely (laws ~) 4: fully differentiated or developed 5 of a postage stamp: issued as a regular stamp for the country or territory in which it is to be used *syn* see CONCLUSIVE — *def-i-ni-tive-ly* *adv* — *def-i-ni-tive-ness* *n*

**definitive** *n* (1951): a definitive postage stamp — compare PROVISIONAL

**definitive host** *n* (1901): the host in which the sexual reproduction of a parasite takes place

*de-fi-ni-tize* \def-(ə)-nī-zīz, di-'fin-ə-'tīz/ *vt* -tized; -tizing (1876): to make definite

*de-fi-ni-tude* \di-'fin-ə-'t(y)ūd, 'fi-nə-'t/ [irreg. fr. *definite*] (1836): PRECISION, DEFINITENESS

*def-la-grate* \def-'lā-'grāt/ *vb* -grat-ed; -grat-ing [L. *deflagratus*, pp. of *deflagrare* to burn down, fr. *de-* + *flagrare* to burn — more at BLACK] (1727): to cause to deflagrate — compare DETONATE ~ *vi*: to burn rapidly with intense heat and sparks being given off — *def-la-gra-tion* \def-'lā-'grā-shən/ *n*

*deflate* \di-'flāt, 'dē-/ *vb* de-flat-ed; de-flat-ing [de- + *flate* (as in *inflated*)] (1891) 1: to release air or gas from 2: to reduce in size or importance (~ his ego with cutting remarks) 3: to reduce (a price level) or cause (a volume of credit) to contract ~ *vi*: to lose firmness through or as if through the escape of contained gas. *syn* see CONTRACT — *de-fla-tor* \-'flāt-ər/ *n*

*de-fla-tion* \di-'flā-shən, 'dē-/ *n* (1891) 1: an act or instance of deflating: the state of being deflated 2: a contraction in the volume of available money or credit that results in a decline of the general price level 3: the erosion of soil by the wind — *de-fla-tion-ary* \-shə-'ner-ē-/ *adj*

*de-flect* \di-'fлект/ *vb* [L. *deflectere* to bend down, turn aside, fr. *de-* + *flectere* to bend] (1555): to turn from a straight course or fixed direction: BEND ~ *vi*: to turn aside: DEVIATE — *de-flect-able* \-'fлект-ə-bəl/ *adj* — *de-flect-ive* \-'tīv/ *adj* — *de-flec-tor* \-'tər/ *n*

*de-flec-tion* \di-'fлект-shən/ *n* (1605) 1: a turning aside or off course 2: the departure of an indicator or pointer from the zero reading on the scale of an instrument

*de-flexed* \dē-'fлектst, di-'/ *adj* [L. *deflexus*, pp. of *deflectere*] (1826): turned abruptly downward (a ~ leaf)

*de-flor-a-tion* \def-'lā-'rā-shən, 'dē-'flā-/ *n* [ME *defloracioun*, fr. LL *defloratio*, *defloratio*, fr. *defloratus*, pp. of *deflorare*] (15c): rupture of the hymen

*de-flow-er* \('dē-'flau-(ə)r/ *vt* [ME *desflouren*, fr. MF or LL *desflorare*, fr. LL *desflorare*, fr. L *de-* + *flor-*, *flor* flower — more at BLOW] (14c) 1: to deprive of virginity: RAVISH 2: to take away the prime beauty of — *de-flow-er-er* *n*

*de-foam* \('dē-'fōm/ *vt* (1939): to remove foam from: prevent the formation of foam in — *de-foam-er* *n*

*de-fog* \('dē-'fōg, 'fāg/ *vt* (1904): to remove fog or condensed moisture from — *de-fog-ger* *n*

*de-fol-i-ant* \('dē-'fō-lē-ənt/ *n* (1943): a chemical spray or dust applied to plants in order to cause the leaves to drop off prematurely

*de-fol-i-ate* \-'lē-, 'āt/ *vt* [LL *defoliatus*, pp. of *defoliare*, fr. L *de-* + *folium* leaf — more at BLADE] (1791): to deprive of leaves esp. prematurely

*de-fol-i-a-tion* \('dē-'fō-lē-'ā-shən/ *n* — *de-fol-i-a-tor* \('dē-'fō-lē-'ā-tər/ *n*

*de-force* \('dē-'fō-(ə)rs, 'fō-(ə)rs/ *vt* [ME *deforcen*, fr. MF *deforcier*, fr. *de-* + *forcier* to force] (15c) 1: to keep (as lands) by force from the rightful owner 2: to eject (a person) from possession by force — *de-force-ment* \-'fōr-smənt, 'fōr-/ *n*

*de-for-ciant* \di-'fōr-shənt, 'fōr-/ *n* [AF, fr. OF, pp. of *deforcier*] (15c): one who deforces the rightful owner

*de-for-es-ta-tion* \('dē-'fōr-'stā-shən, 'fār-/ *n* (1874): the action or process of clearing of forests; also: the state of having been cleared of forests — *de-for-est* \('dē-'fōr-'st, 'fār-/ *vt*

*de-form* \di-'fō(ə)rm, 'dē-/ *vb* [ME *deformen*, fr. MF or L; MF *deformer*, fr. L *deformare*, fr. *de-* + *formare* to form; fr. *forma* form] (15c) 1

: to spoil the form of 2: a: to spoil the looks of: DISFIGURE (~ed by bitterness) b: to make hideous or monstrous 3: to alter shape of by stress ~ *vi*: to become misshapen or changed in shape

*syn* DEFORM, DISTORT, CONTORT, WARP mean to mar or spoil by twisting. DEFORM may imply a change of shape through injury, or some accident of growth; DISTORT and CONTORT both imply wrenching from the natural, normal, or justly proportioned but

TORT suggests a more involved twisting and a more grotesque painful result; WARP indicates physically an uneven shrinking bends or twists out of a flat plane.

*de-for-mal-ize* \('dē-'fōr-mə-'līz/ *vt* (1880): to make less formal

*de-for-ma-tion* \dē-'fōr-mā-shən, 'def-ər-/ *n* (15c) 1: alteration of form or shape; also: the product of such alteration 2: the act of deforming: the state of being deformed 3: change for the worse

*de-for-ma-tion-al* \-shən-əl, -shən-/ *adj*

*de-for-ma-tive* \di-'fōr-mə-'tīv/ *adj* (1641): tending to deform

*de-formed* \dē-'fōr-məd-/ *adj* (15c): distorted or unshapely in form: MISSHAPEN

*de-for-mi-ty* \di-'fōr-mə-'tē-/ *n*, pl -ties [ME *deformite*, fr. MF *deformité*, fr. L *deformatitas*, *deformatitas*, fr. *deformis* deformed, fr. *de-* + *formis* the state of being deformed 2: a physical blemish or

(15c) 1: the state of being deformed 2: a moral or aesthetic flaw or defect; distortion: DISFIGUREMENT 3: a moral or aesthetic flaw or defect

*de-fraud* \di-'frōd/ *vt* [ME *defrauden*, fr. MF *defrauder*, fr. L *defraudare*, fr. *de-* + *fraudare* to cheat, fr. *fraud-*, *fraus* fraud] (14c) 1: to deprive of something by deception or fraud *syn* see CHEAT

*de-fraud-a-tion* \di-'frōd-'ā-shən/ *n* — *de-fraud-er* \di-'frōd-ər/ *n*

*de-fray* \di-'frā/ *vt* [MF *deffrayer*, fr. *des-* + *frayer* to expend; OF, fr. (assumed) *OF* *frat* expenditure, lit., damage by breaking] (1543) 1: to provide for the payment of: PAY 2: *archaic*: to bear expenses of — *de-fray-able* \-'frā-bəl/ *adj* — *de-fray-al* \-'frā-(ə)-əl/ *n*

*de-frock* \('dē-'frōk/ *vt* (1581): UNFROCK

*de-frost* \di-'frōst, 'dē-/ *vt* (1895) 1: to release from a frozen state (meat) 2: to free from ice (~ the refrigerator) ~ *vi*: to thaw (but

from a deep-frozen state — *de-frost-er* *n*

*deft* \delt/ *adj* [ME *defte*] (15c): marked by facility and skill: DEXTEROUS — *deft-ly* *adv* — *deft-ness* \delt(-)nəs/ *n*

*de-funct* \di-'fəŋ(k)t/ *adj* [L. *defunctus*, fr. pp. of *defungi* to finish, *de-* + *fungi* to perform — more at FUNCTION] (1599): having finished the course of life or existence (her ~ aunt's will) (the committee ~)

*syn* see DEAD

*de-fuse* \('dē-'fūz/ *vt* (1943) 1: to remove the fuse from (as a fire bomb) 2: to make less harmful, potent, or tense: CALM (~ the bomb)

*de-fy* \di-'fi-/ *vi* de-fied; de-fying [ME *desfen* to renounce faith; *fy*, fr. MF *desfer*, fr. *de-* + *fier* to entrust, fr. (assumed) *Vi* alter, of L. *fidere* to trust — more at BIDE] (14c) 1: *archaic*: to

lunge to combat 2: to challenge to do something considered impossible 3: to confront with assured power of resistance: DARE ~ *vi*: to resist attempts at: WITHSTAND

*de-fy* \di-'fi, 'dē-/ *n*, pl *defies* (1580): CHALLENGE, DEFIANCE

*de-gage* \dē-'gā-'zhā/ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *dégager* to redeem a pledge; fr. OF *desgagier*, fr. *des-* + *gager* pledge — more at GAGE] (16c) 1: free of constraint: NONCHALANT 2: being free and easy (~ with a ~ look) 3: extended with toe pointed in preparation

for a ballet step

*de-gas* \('dē-'gās/ *vt* (1920): to remove gas from (~ an electron tube)

*de-Gaul-lism* \di-'gō-'liz-əm, 'gō-/ *n* (1943): GAULLISM — *de-Gaul-list* *n*

*de-gauss* \('dē-'gāus/ *vt* [de- + *gauss*, after Karl F. Gauss] (ca. 19): to make (a steel ship) effectively nonmagnetic by means of electric coils carrying currents that neutralize the magnetism of the ship

— *de-gauss-er* *n*

*de-gen-er-a-cy* \di-'jen-(ə)-rə-'sē-/ *n*, pl -cies (1664) 1: the state of degenerate 2: the process of becoming degenerate 3: sexual

degeneration 4: the coding of an amino acid by more than one codon

genetic code

*de-gen-er-ate* \di-'jen-(ə)-rət/ *adj* [ME *degenerat*, fr. L. *degenerat* to degenerate, to degenerate, fr. *de-* + *gener-*, *genus* race, kind — more at KIN] (15c) 1: a: having declined (as in nature, character, strength, or function) from an ancestral or former state b: having sub-

condition below that which is normal to a type; esp.: having sub-

lower and usu. peculiarly corrupt and vicious state c: DEGRAD-

ation 2: a lowering of effective power, vitality, or essential quality 3: being mathematically simpler (as by having a factor or a



**flea-wort** \flā-wort, -wō(ə)rt\ *n* [ME *flewort*, fr. OE *fleawyr*, fr. *flea* + *wyr* herb, root — more at **ROOT**] (bef. 12c) : any of three Old World plants (esp. *Plantago psyllium*) whose seeds are sometimes used as a mild laxative — compare **PSYLLIUMSEED**

**flèche** \flāsh, \flēsh\ *n* [F, lit., arrow] (1848) : SPIRE; esp. : a slender spire above the intersection of the nave and transepts of a church  
**fléchette** \flā-shet, flē- \ *n* [F, fr. dim. of *flèche* arrow, fr. OF *fleche*, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *vlecke* arrow, OE *fleogan* to fly] (1915) : a small dart-shaped projectile that is clustered in an explosive warhead, dropped as a missile from an airplane, or fired from a hand-held gun

**fleck** \flēk\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *flecked* spotted, fr. ME, prob. fr. ON *flekkr*, fr. *flekkr* spot — more at **FLAY**] (14c) : STREAK, SPOT (white-caps ~ed the blue sea)

**fleck** *n* (1598) 1 : SPOT, MARK (a brown tweed with ~s of yellow) 2 : FLAKE, PARTICLE (~s of snow drifted down)

**flection** *var* of **FLEXION**

**fledge** \flēj\ *vb* fledged; fledging [fledge (capable of flying), fr. ME *flegge*, fr. OE *flyge*; akin to OHG *flecken* capable of flying, OE *fleogan* to fly — more at **FLY**] *vi*, of a bird (1566) : to acquire the feathers necessary for flight ~ *vt* 1 : to rear until ready for flight or independent activity 2 : to cover with or as if with feathers or down 3 : to furnish (as an arrow) with feathers

**fledgling** \flēj-ling\ *n* (1830) 1 : a young bird just fledged 2 : an immature or inexperienced person 3 : one that is new (a ~ company in the industry)

**flee** \flē\ *vb* fled \fled\; fleeing [ME *fleen*, fr. OE *fleon*; akin to OHG *flihan* to flee] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 : a : to run away often from danger or evil : FLY *b* : to hurry toward a place of security 2 : to pass away swiftly : VANISH (mists ~ing before the rising sun) ~ *vt* : to run away from : SHUN

**fleece** \flēs\ *n* [ME *flees*, fr. OE *fleox*; akin to MHG *vliux* fleece, L *pluma* feather, down] (bef. 12c) 1 : a : the coat of wool covering a wool-bearing animal (as a sheep) *b* : the wool obtained from a sheep at one shearing 2 : a : any of various soft or woolly coverings *b* : a soft bulky deep-piled knitted or woven fabric used chiefly for clothing  
**fleece** *vi* (1537) 1 : a : to strip of money or property by fraud or extortion *b* : to charge excessively for goods or services 2 : to remove the fleece from : SHEAR 3 : to dot or cover with fleecy masses

**fleeced** \flēst\ *adj* (1580) 1 : covered with or as if with a fleece 2 : of a textile : having a soft nap

**fleece** \flēch\ *vb* [ME (Sc) *flechen*] *dial* (14c) : COAX, WHEEDLE  
**fleecy** \flē-sē\ *adj* fleecier, -est (1590) : covered with, made of, or resembling fleece (a ~ winter coat)

**fleer** \flī(ə)r\ *vi* [ME *fleryen*, of Scand origin; akin to Norw *flire* to giggle — more at **FLIMFLAM**] (15c) : to laugh or grimace in a coarse derisive manner : SNEER *syn* see **SCOFF** — **fleer-ingly** \-in-lē\ *adv*  
**fleer** *n* (1604) : a word or look of derision or mockery

**fleet** \flēt\ *vb* [ME *fleeten*, fr. OE *fleotan*; akin to OHG *fliozan* to float, OE *flōtan* to flow] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 : obs. : DRIFT 2 : a : to cause (time) to pass usu. quickly or imperceptibly 2 [alter. of *fliit*] : to move or change in position (~ a hawser)

**fleet** *n* [ME *flete*, fr. OE *fleot* ship, fr. *fleotan*] (13c) 1 : a number of warships under a single command; *specific* : an organization of ships and aircraft under the command of a flag officer 2 : a group (as of ships, planes, or trucks) operated under unified control

**fleet** *adj* [prob. fr. *fleest*] (1529) 1 : swift in motion : NIMBLE 2 : EVANESCENT, FLEETING *syn* see **FAST** — **fleet-ly** *adv* — **fleet-ness** *n*  
**fleet** *n* (1946) : an admiral of the highest rank in the navy whose insignia is five stars

**fleet-footed** \-fūt-əd\ *adj* (1743) : able to run fast  
**fleet-ing** *adj* (1563) : passing swiftly : TRANSITORY *syn* see **TRANSIENT** — **fleet-ingly** \-in-lē\ *adv* — **fleet-iness** *n*

**Fleet Street** \flēt- \ *n* [Fleet Street, London, England, center of the London newspaper district] (1882) : the London press

**fleishig** \flā-shik\ *adj* [Yiddish, fr. MHG *vleischic* meaty, fr. *vleisch* flesh, meat, fr. OHG *fleisk*] (1943) : made of, prepared with, or used for meat or meat products — compare **MILCHIG**, **PARVE**

**Flem-ing** \flēm-in\ *n* [ME, fr. MD *Vlaminc* (akin to MD *Vlander* Flanders)] (12c) : a member of the Germanic people inhabiting northern Belgium and a small section of northern France

**Flem-ish** \flēm-ish\ *adj* (14c) : of, relating to, or characteristic of Flanders or the Flemings or their language

**Flemish** *n* (1727) 1 : the Dutch language used by the Flemings 2 *pl* in constr. : FLEMINGS

**Flemish giant** *n* (ca. 1898) : a rabbit of a breed prob. of Belgian origin that is characterized by large size, vigor, and solid coat color in black, white, or gray

**flense** \flēn(t)s\ *vt* flensed; flensing [D *flensen* or Dan & Norw *flense*] (1814) : to strip (as a whale) of blubber or skin

**flesh** \flēsh\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *flæsc*; akin to OHG *fleisk* flesh and prob. to ON *flā* to flay — more at **FLAY**] (bef. 12c) 1 : a : the soft parts of the body of an animal and esp. of a vertebrate; esp. : the parts composed chiefly of skeletal muscle as distinguished from visceral structures, bone, and integuments *b* : sleek well-fatted condition of body *c* : SKIN 2 : a : edible parts of an animal *b* : flesh of a mammal or fowl that is an article of diet (abstain from ~ during religious fasts) 3 : a : the physical being of man (the spirit indeed is willing, but the ~ is weak — Mt 26:41 (AV)) *b* : HUMAN NATURE 4 : a : human beings : MANKIND *b* : living beings *c* : STOCK, KINDRED 5 : a fleshy plant part used as food; also : the fleshy part of a fruit 6 *Christian Science* : an illusion that matter has sensation 7 : SUBSTANCE (insights buried in the ~ of the narrative — Jan Carew) — in the flesh : in person and alive

**flesh** *vi* (1530) 1 : to initiate or habituate esp. by giving a foretaste 2 : *archaic* : GRATIFY 3 : to clothe or cover with or as if with flesh; broadly : to give substance to — usu. used with *out* 4 : to free from flesh ~ *vi* : to become fleshy — often used with *up* or *out*

**flesh and blood** *n* (bef. 12c) 1 : corporeal nature as composed of flesh and of blood 2 : near kindred — used chiefly in the phrase *one's own flesh and blood* 3 : SUBSTANCE, REALITY

**fleshed** \flēsh\ *adj* (15c) : having flesh esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination (pink-fleshed) (thick-fleshed)

**flesh fly** *n* (14c) : a two-winged fly whose maggots feed on flesh; esp. : any of a family (Sarcophagidae) of flies some of which cause myiasis  
**flesh-iness** \flēsh-ē-nēs\ *n* (15c) : the state of being fleshy : CORPULENCE

**flesh-ing** \flēsh-ing\ *n* *pl* (1838) : material removed in fleshing a hide or skin

**flesh-ly** \flēsh-lē\ *adj* (bef. 12c) 1 : a : CORPOREAL, BODILY *b* : of, relating to, or characterized by indulgence of bodily appetites; esp. : LASCIVIOUS (~ desires) *c* : not spiritual : WORLDLY 2 : FLESHY, PLUMP 3 : having a sensuous quality (~ art) *syn* see **CARNAL**

**flesh-ment** \flēsh-mənt\ *n* [2] *obs.* (1605) : excitement associated with a successful beginning

**flesh-pot** \flēsh-pāt\ *n* (1592) 1 *pl* : bodily comfort : LUXURY 2 : a place of lascivious entertainment — usu. used in *pl.*

**flesh wound** *n* (1674) : an injury involving penetration of the body musculature without damage to bones or internal organs

**fleshy** \flēsh-ē\ *adj* fleshier, -est (14c) 1 : a : marked by, consisting of, or resembling flesh *b* : marked by abundant flesh; esp. : CORPULENT 2 : a : SUCCULENT, PULPY (the rich ~ texture of a perfectly ripe melon) *b* : not thin, dry, or membranous (~ fungi)

**fleshy fruit** *n* (1929) : a fruit (as a berry, drupe, or pome) consisting largely of soft succulent tissue

**fletcher** \flēch\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *fletcher*] (1635) : FEATHER (~ an arrow)

**fletcher** \flēch-ər\ *n* [ME *fleccher*, fr. OF *flechier*, fr. *fleche* arrow — more at **FLÉCHETTE**] (14c) : a maker of arrows

**fleur de coin** \flōr-də- \kwā\ *adj* [F *à fleur de coin*, lit., with the bloom of the die] (ca. 1889) : in the preserved mint condition

**fleur-de-lis** or **fleur-de-lys** \flōr- \l-ē, \flōr- \l-ē\ *n*, *pl* fleurs-de-lis or fleurs-de-lis or fleurs-de-lis or fleurs-de-lis \flōr- \l-ē\ *z*, \flōr- \l-ē\ *z* [ME *fleurdelis*, fr. MF *flor de lis*, lit., lily flower] (14c) 1 : IRIS 3 2 : a conventionalized iris in artistic design and heraldry

**fleury** \flū(ə)-rē\ *adj* [alter. of ME *flory*, fr. OF *floré*, fr. *flor* flower — more at **FLOWER**] : of a heraldic cross (15c) : having the ends of the arms broadening out into the heads of fleurs-de-lis — see **CROSS** illustration

**flew** *past* of **FLY**

**flews** \flūz\ *n* *pl* [origin unknown] (1575) : the pendulous lateral parts of a dog's upper lip — see **DOG** illustration

**flex** \flēks\ *vb* [L *flexus*, pp. of *flectere*] *vi*, (1521) 1 : to bend esp. repeatedly 2 : a : to move muscles so as to cause flexion of (a joint) *b* : to move or tense (a muscle or muscles) by contraction ~ *vi* : BEND — **flex** one's muscles : to demonstrate one's strength (an exaggerated need to flex his political muscles — J. P. Lash)

**flex** *n* [short for *flexible cord*] chiefly Brit (1905) : electric cord

**flex** *n* (ca. 1934) : an act or instance of flexing

**flex-ible** \flēk-sə-bəl\ *adj* (15c) 1 : capable of being flexed : PLIANT 2 : yielding to influence : TRACTABLE 3 : characterized by a ready capability to adapt to new, different, or changing requirements (a ~ foreign policy) (~ public transportation) (a ~ schedule) *syn* see **ELASTIC** — **flex-i-bil-ity** \flēk-sə-bil-ə-tē\ *n* — **flex-i-bly** \flēk-sə-blē\ *adv*

**flex-ile** \flēk-səl, -sil\ *adj* (1633) : FLEXIBLE

**flex-ion** \flēk-shən\ *n* [L *flexion*, *flexio*, fr. *flexus*, pp. of *flectere*] (1656) 1 : the act of flexing or bending 2 : a part bent : BEND 3 : INFLECTION 3 4 : a : a bending movement around a joint in a limb (as the knee or elbow) that decreases the angle between the bones of the limb at the joint — compare **EXTENSION** 3b *b* : a forward raising of the arm or leg by a movement at the shoulder or hip joint

**flex-o-graphy** \flēk-sə-grə-fē\ *n* [flexible + -o- + -graphy] (1954) : a process of rotary letterpress printing using flexible plates and fast-drying inks — **flex-o-graph-ic** \flēk-sə-grəf-ik\ *adj* — **flex-o-graph-ical-ly** \-ik-ə-lē\ *adv*

**flex-or** \flēk-sər, -sō(ə)r\ *n* (1615) : a muscle serving to bend a body part (as a limb)

**flex-time** \flēk-stim\ *n* (1973) : a system that allows employees to choose their own times for starting and finishing work within a broad range of available hours

**flex-u-ous** \flēksh-(ə)-wəs\ *adj* [L *flexuosus*, fr. *flexus* bend, fr. *flexus*, pp.] (1605) 1 : having turns or windings 2 : lacking rigidity in structure or action (its ~ and elastic body)

**flex-u-ral** \flēksh-(ə)-rəl\ *adj* (1879) 1 : of, relating to, or resulting from flexure 2 : characterized by flexure

**flex-u-re** \flēk-shər\ *n* (1592) 1 : the quality or state of being flexed : FLEXION 2 : TURN, BEND, FOLD

**fley** \flā\ *vi* [ME *flayen*, fr. OE *āflēgan*, fr. *ā-*, perfective prefix + *-flēgan* to put to flight] Scot (bef. 12c) : FRIGHTEN

**flib-ber-tig-bet** \flīb-ər-tē-jīb-ət\ *n* [ME *flepergebet*] (15c) : a silly flighty person — **flib-ber-tig-bet-ty** \-ət-ē\ *adj*

**flic** \flēk\ *n* [F] (1899) : a French policeman

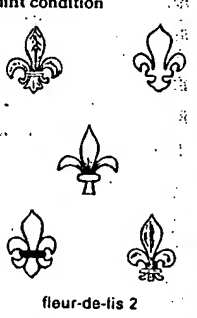
**flick** \flīk\ *n* [imit.] (15c) 1 : a light sharp jerky stroke or movement 2 : a sound produced by a flick 3 : FLICKER 1

**flick** *vt* (1816) 1 : a : to strike lightly with a quick sharp motion (~ed the horse with a whip) *b* : to remove with light blows (~ed an ash off her sleeve) 2 : a : to move or propel with or as if with a flick (~ed her hair back over her shoulder) (~ a switch) (~ing cigarette butts into the gutter) *b* : to activate, deactivate, or change by or as if by flicking a switch (~ on a cigarette lighter) (~ off the radio) ~ *vi* 1 : to go or pass quickly or abruptly (a bird ~ed by) (~ing through some papers) 2 : to direct flicks at something

**flick** *n* [short for *flicker*] (1926) : MOVIE

**flick-er** \flīk-ər\ *vb* flickered; flick-er-ing \-(ə)-rīŋ\ [ME *flikeren*, fr. OE *flīcorian*] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 : to move irregularly or unsteadily : FLUTTER 2 : to burn or shine fitfully or with a fluctuating light 3 : to appear briefly ~ *vi* 1 : to cause to flicker 2 : to produce by flickering — **flick-er-ing-ly** \-(ə)-rīŋ-lē\ *adv*

**flicker** *n* (1809) : a common large brightly marked woodpecker (*Colaptes auratus*) of eastern No. America; also : any of several related birds of the southern and western U.S.



non-hospitalized  
non-hostile  
non-human  
non-hyber-ter-cal  
non-ideal  
non-ident-ity  
non-ideo-log-ical  
non-im-age  
non-im-i-tative  
non-im-migrant  
non-im-mune  
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non-im-plication  
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non-in-cras-ing  
non-in-cum-bent  
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non-Jew-ish  
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non-jury  
non-kos-her  
non-lan-guage  
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non-leg-at  
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non-lit-er-ary  
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non-log-ical  
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non-mag-netic  
non-ma-jor  
non-ma-li-g-nant  
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non-man-age-ment  
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**semi-nary** \sem-ə-nēr-ē\ *n.* pl. -naries [ME. seedbed, nursery, seminary, fr. L. *seminarium*, fr. *semin-*, *semen* seed] (15c) 1: an environment in which something originates and from which it is propagated (a ~ of vice and crime) 2: a: an institution of secondary or higher education; esp.: an academy for girls b: an institution for the training of candidates for the priesthood, ministry, or rabbinate  
**semi-nat-u-r-al** \sem-i-nach-(ə)-rəl, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (ca. 1962): modified by human influence but retaining many natural features (~ temperate meadows)  
**semi-nif-er-ous** \sem-ə-nif-(ə)-rəs\ *adj.* [L. *semin-*, *semen* seed + E. *-iferous*] (1692): producing or bearing seed or semen  
**seminiferous tubule** *n.* (1860): any of the coiled threadlike tubules that make up the bulk of the testis and are lined with a germinal epithelium from which the spermatozoa are produced  
**Semi-nole** \sem-ə-nōl\ *n.* pl. Seminole or Seminole [Creek *simanó-li*, *simanó-li*, lit., wild, fr. AmerSp *cimarrón*] (1789): a member of an American Indian people of Florida  
**semi-no-mad** \sem-i-nō-mad, sem-i-ˈ\ *n.* (ca. 1934): a member of a people living usu. in portable or temporary dwellings and practicing seasonal migration but having a base camp at which some crops are cultivated — **semi-no-mad-ic** \sem-i-nō-mad-ik\ *adj.*  
**semi-nude** \ˈn(y)üd\ *adj.* (1849): partially nude — **semi-nu-di-ty** \ˈn(y)üd-ət-ē\ *n.*  
**semi-offi-cial** \sem-ē-ə-ˈfīsh-əl, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1806): having some official authority or standing — **semi-offi-cial-ly** \sem-i-ˈfīsh-(ə)-lē\ *adv.*  
**semi-o-log-y** \sem-ē-ˈlɔ-jē, sem-ē-, se-mi-, \ *n.* [Gk *semeion* sign] (ca. 1890): the study of signs; esp.: SEMIOTIC — **semi-o-log-i-cal** \sem-i-ˈlɔ-j-i-kəl\ *adj.* — **semi-o-log-i-cal-ly** \sem-i-ˈlɔ-j-i-k(ə)-lē\ *adv.* — **semi-o-log-i-st** \ˈlɔ-j-i-k(ə)-lɔst\ *n.*  
**semi-opaque** \sem-ē-ə-ˈpāk, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1691): nearly opaque  
**semi-o-sis** \se-mē-ə-ˈsɪs, sem-ē-, se-mi-, \ *n.* [NL, fr. Gk *semeiosis* observation of signs, fr. *semeion* to observe signs, fr. *semeion*] (ca. 1907): a process in which something functions as a sign to an organism  
**semi-ot-ic** \ˈāt-ik or sem-i-ot-ics\ *-iks\ n.* pl. semiotics [Gk *semeiōtikos* observant of signs, fr. *semeiōsthai* to interpret signs, fr. *semeion* sign; akin to Gk *sema* sign — more at SEMANTIC] (1938): a general philosophical theory of signs and symbols that deals esp. with their function in both artificially constructed and natural languages and comprises syntactics, semantics, and pragmatics — **semi-ot-ic** \sem-i-ot-ic-ian\ *n.* — **semi-ot-i-cist** \ˈāt-ə-sɪst\ *n.*  
**semi-pal-mat-ed** \sem-i-ˈpāl-māt-əd, sem-i-, ˈpāl(m)-āt-\ *adj.* (1785): having the anterior toes joined only part way down with a web (a plover with ~ feet)  
**semi-par-a-sit-ic** \ˈpar-ə-ˈsɪt-ik\ *adj.* (1878): of, relating to, or being a parasitic plant that contains some chlorophyll and is capable of photosynthesis  
**semi-per-ma-nent** \ˈpɔrm-(ə)-nənt\ *adj.* (ca. 1890): lasting or intended to last for a long time but not permanent  
**semi-per-me-able** \ˈpɔr-mē-ə-bəl\ *adj.* (1888): partially but not freely or wholly permeable; *specif.*: permeable to some use, small molecules but not to other use, larger particles (a ~ membrane) — **semi-per-me-abil-ity** \ˈpɔr-mē-ə-bil-ət-ē\ *n.*  
**semi-pol-i-ti-cal** \ˈpɔ-lit-i-kəl\ *adj.* (1857): of, relating to, or involving some political features or activity  
**semi-pop-u-lar** \ˈpāp-yə-lər\ *adj.* (1899): somewhat popular  
**semi-por-ce-lain** \ˈpɔr-sə-ˈlɛn, ˈpɔr-, \ *n.* (1880): any of several ceramic wares resembling or imitative of porcelain; esp.: a relatively high-fired and hard-glazed white earthenware widely used for tableware  
**semi-por-no-graph-ic** \ˈpɔr-nə-ˈgräf-ik\ *adj.* (1964): somewhat pornographic — **semi-por-nog-ra-phy** \ˈpɔr-nəg-rə-fē\ *n.*  
**semi-post-al** \sem-i-ˈpɔs-tl, sem-i-ˈ\ *n.* (1927): a postage stamp sold at a premium over its postal value esp. for a humanitarian purpose  
**semi-pre-cious** \ˈpre-sh-əs\ *adj.* of a gemstone (ca. 1890): of less commercial value than a precious stone  
**semi-private** \ˈpri-vət\ *adj.* (ca. 1925): of, receiving, or associated with hospital service giving a patient more privileges than a ward patient but fewer than a private patient  
**semi-pro** \sem-i-ˈprɔ, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* or *n.* (1908): SEMIPROFESSIONAL  
**semi-pro-fes-sion-al** \sem-i-ˈprɔ-fesh-nəl, ˈɔn-əl, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1897) 1: engaging in an activity for pay or gain but not as a full-time occupation 2: engaged in by semiprofessional players (~ baseball) — **semi-pro-fes-sion-al-ly** \sem-i-ˈprɔ-fesh-nəl-ē\ *adv.*  
**semiprofessional** *n.* (ca. 1897): one who engages in an activity (as a sport) semiprofessionally  
**semi-public** \sem-i-ˈpʌb-lik, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1804) 1: open to some persons outside the regular constituency 2: having some features of a public institution; *specif.*: maintained as a public service by a private nonprofit organization  
**semi-quant-i-ta-tive** \ˈkwānt(t)-ə-tāt-iv\ *adj.* (ca. 1927): constituting or involving less than quantitative precision — **semi-quant-i-ta-tive-ly** \sem-i-ˈkwā-vər, sem-i-ˈ\ *adv.*  
**semi-qua-ver** \sem-i-ˈkwā-vər, sem-i-ˈ\ *n.* (1576): SIXTEENTH NOTE  
**semi-re-li-gious** \ˈri-li-jəs\ *adj.* (1864): somewhat religious in character  
**semi-ret-ired** \ˈn-ti-(ə)r-d\ *adj.* (1937): working only part-time esp. because of age or ill health  
**semi-re-tire-ment** \ˈti-(ə)r-mənt\ *n.* (1923): the state or condition of being semiretired  
**semi-rig-id** \sem-i-ˈrij-əd, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1908) 1: rigid to some degree or, in some parts, 2 of an airship: having a flexible cylindrical gas container with an attached stiffening keel that carries the load  
**semi-rur-al** \ˈrūr-əl\ *adj.* (ca. 1864): somewhat rural  
**semi-sa-cred** \ˈsā-kred\ *adj.* (ca. 1898): SEMIRELIGIOUS  
**semi-se-cret** \ˈsē-kret\ *adj.* (1917): not publicly announced but widely known nevertheless  
**semi-sed-en-tary** \ˈsed-ən-ter-ē\ *adj.* (ca. 1930): sedentary during part of the year and nomadic otherwise (~ tribes)  
**semi-shrub-by** \sem-i-ˈshrəb-ē, sem-i-, esp. Southern -sərb-\ *adj.* (1930): resembling or being a shrub  
**semi-skilled** \sem-i-ˈskild, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1916): having or requiring less training than skilled labor and more than unskilled labor  
**semi-soft** \ˈsɔft\ *adj.* (ca. 1903): moderately soft; *specif.*: firm but easily cut (~ cheese)  
**semi-sol-id** \ˈsāl-əd\ *adj.* (1834): having the qualities of both a solid and a liquid; highly viscous — **semisolid** *n.*  
**semi-sweet** \ˈswet\ *adj.* (1943): slightly sweetened (~ chocolate)

**semi-syn-thet-ic** \ˈsɪn-ˈthet-ik\ *adj.* (1937) 1: produced by chemical alteration of a natural starting material (~ penicillins) 2: containing both chemically identified and complex natural ingredients (a ~ diet)  
**Semite** \sem-i-, esp. Brit. ˈsē-mīt\ *n.* [F. *sémite*, fr. *Sem* Sem, fr. LL, fr. Gk *Sēm*, fr. Heb *Shēm*] (1875): a member of any of a group of peoples of southwestern Asia chiefly represented now by the Jews and Arabs but in ancient times also by the Babylonians, Assyrians, Aramaeans, Canaanites, and Phoenicians  
**semi-ter-est-ri-al** \sem-i-tə-ˈres-trē-əl, sem-i-, ˈres(h)-chəl\ *adj.* (1917) 1: growing on boggy ground 2: frequenting but not living wholly on land  
**Semitic** \sə-ˈmit-ik\ *adj.* [G. *semitisch*, fr. *Semit*, *Semite* Semite, prob. fr. NL *Semita*, fr. LL *Sem* Sem] (1826) 1: of, relating to, or characteristic of the Semites; *specif.*: JEWISH 2: of, relating to, or constituting a subfamily of the Afro-Asiatic language family that includes Hebrew, Aramaic, Arabic, and Ethiopic  
**Semitic** *n.* (1875): any or all of the Semitic languages  
**Semiticist** \sə-ˈmit-ə-sɪst\ *n.* (1956): SEMITIST  
**Semitics** \ˈmit-iks\ *n.* pl. but sing. in constr. (1895): the study of the language, literature, and history of Semitic peoples; *specif.*: Semitic philology  
**Semitism** \sem-i-tiz-əm\ *n.* (1851) 1: a: Semitic character or qualities b: a characteristic feature of a Semitic language occurring in another language 2: policy favorable to Jews: predisposition in favor of Jews  
**Semitist** \ˈsɪt-əst\ *n.* (1885) 1: a scholar of the Semitic languages, cultures, or histories 2 often not cap.: a person favoring or disposed to favor the Jews  
**Semitonal** \sem-i-ˈtɒn-əl, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1863): CHROMATIC 3a. SEMI-TONIC — **semiton-al-ly** \sem-i-ˈtɒn-əl-ē\ *adv.*  
**Semitone** \sem-i-ˈtɒn, sem-i-ˈ\ *n.* (1609): the tone at a half step; also 1/2 STEP — **semiton-ic** \sem-i-ˈtɒn-ik, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* — **semiton-i-cal-ly** \sem-i-ˈtɒn-ik(ə)-lē\ *adv.*  
**Semitrailer** \sem-i-ˈtrā-lər, sem-i-ˈ\ *n.* (1919) 1: a freight trailer that when attached is supported at its forward end by the fifth wheel device of the truck tractor 2: a trucking rig made up of a tractor and a semitrailer  
**Semitranslucent** \sem-i-ˈtranz-lüs-nt, sem-i-, ˈtranz-\ *adj.* (1832): somewhat translucent  
**Semitransparent** \sem-i-ˈtranz-pər-ənt, ˈper-\ *adj.* (1793): imperfectly transparent  
**Semitropical** \sem-i-ˈtrɒp-ikəl, also semi-tropic\ *-ik\ adj.* (1860): SUBTROPICAL  
**Semitropics** \ˈsɪks\ *n.* pl. (1908): SUBTROPICS  
**Semivowel** \sem-i-ˈvaʊ-(ə)-l\ *n.* (1530) 1: one of the glides (as English *y*, *w*, or *r*) 2: a letter representing a semivowel  
**Semiweekly** \sem-i-ˈwē-klē, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1791): occurring twice a week — **semiweekly** *adv.*  
**Semiweekly** *n.* (1833): a semiweekly publication  
**Semiworks** \sem-i-ˈwɜrks, sem-i-ˈ\ *n.* pl. often attrib. (1926): a manufacturing plant operating on a limited commercial scale to provide final tests of a new product or process  
**Semiyearly** \sem-i-ˈji-(ə)-lē, sem-i-ˈ\ *adj.* (1928): occurring twice a year  
**Semolina** \sem-ə-ˈlɛ-nə\ *n.* [It. *semolino*, dim. of *semola* bran, fr. L. *simila* finest wheat flour] (1797): the purified middlings of hard wheat (as durum) used esp. for pasta (as macaroni or spaghetti)  
**Sempervivum** \sem-pər-ˈvi-vəm\ *n.* [NL, fr. L. neuter of *sempervivus* ever-living, fr. *semper* ever + *vivus* living — more at QUICK] (ca. 1591): any of a large genus (*Sempervivum*) of Old World fleshy herbs of the orpine family often grown as ornamentals  
**Semipiternal** \sem-pi-ˈtɔrn-əl\ *adj.* [ME, fr. LL *sempiternalis*, fr. L. *sempiternus*, fr. *semper* ever, always, fr. *sem-* one, same (akin to ON *samr* same) + *per* through — more at SAME FOR] (15c): of never-ending duration: ETERNAL — **semipiternal-ly** \sem-pi-ˈtɔrn-əl-ē\ *adv.*  
**Semipiternity** \sem-pi-ˈtɔrn-ət-ē\ *n.* (1599): ETERNITY  
**Semiple** \sem-pəl\ *adj.* [alter. of *simple*] Scot (1759): of humble birth  
**Semiplice** \sem-pi-ˈchə\ *adj.* or *adv.* [It, fr. L. *simplicis*, simplex — more at SIMPLE] (ca. 1740): SIMPLE — used as a direction in music  
**Semipre** \sem-(ə)p-rə\ *adv.* [It, fr. L. *semper*] (ca. 1801): ALWAYS — used in music directions (~ legato)  
**Semistress** \sem(p)-ˈstrəs\ *var.* of SEAMSTRESS  
**Sen** \sen\ *n.* pl. *sen* [Jp] (1727) — see *yen* at MONEY table  
**Sen** *n.* pl. *sen* [Indonesian *sén*, prob. fr. E cent] (1951) — see *rupiah* at MONEY table  
**Sen** *n.* pl. *sen* [prob. fr. Indonesian *sén*] (1954) — see *dollar*, *riel* at MONEY table  
**Sen** *n.* pl. *sen* [Malay, prob. fr. E cent] (1967) — see *ringgit* at MONEY table  
**Senar-i-us** \si-ˈnar-ē-əs, ˈner-\ *n.* pl. *senarii* \-ē-ī, -ē-ā\ [L. fr. *senarius* consisting of six each, fr. *seni* six each, fr. *sex* six — more at SIX] (1540): a verse consisting of six feet esp. in Latin prosody  
**Senary** \sen-ə-rē, sen-\ *adj.* [L. *senarius* consisting of six] (1661): of, based on, or characterized by six: compounded of six things or six parts (~ scale) (~ division)  
**Sen-at** \sen-ət\ *n.* [ME *senat*, fr. OF, fr. L. *senatus*, lit., council of elders; fr. *senex* old, old man, more at SENIOR] (13c) 1: an assembly, or council usu. possessing high deliberative and legislative functions; as a: the supreme council of the ancient Roman republic and empire b: the second chamber in the bicameral legislature of a major political unit (as a nation, state, or province) 2: the hall or chamber in which a senate meets 3: a governing body of some universities charged with maintaining academic standards and regulations and usu. composed of the principal or representative members of the faculty  
**Sen-a-tor** \sen-ət-ər, as a title also ˈsen-tər\ *n.* [ME *senatur*, fr. OF *senatur*, fr. L. *senator*, fr. *senatus*] (13c): a member of a senate  
**Sen-a-tor-i-al** \sen-ə-ˈtɔr-ē-əl, ˈtɔr-\ *adj.* (1740): of, relating to, or befitting a senator or a senate (~ office) (~ rank)  
**senatorial courtesy** *n.* (1884): a custom of the U.S. Senate of refusing to confirm a presidential appointment of an official in or from a state when the appointment is opposed by the senators or senior senator of the president's party from that state  
**senatorial district** *n.* (1829): a territorial division from which a senator is elected — compare CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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